

health care delivery mechanisms can begin.

Congress can use this opportunity to foster a new bridge for biotech companies, universities, patient advocacy organizations, pharmaceutical companies, and research institutions to accelerate the deployment of new research in the practice of medicine, an area where the United States has excelled, a country that has already received more Nobel Prizes in medicine than any other country on Earth.

Finally, on the research side, we should look at compassionate access. With little to lose, many terminally ill patients can only hope for the very quick FDA approval of cutting-edge treatments and drugs for hope in their own case. Compassionate access can provide real hope to patients that need it most, can save their lives, and can accelerate treatments for nearly everyone, but especially the seriously ill.

When we look at the key objectives of this bipartisan agenda, we also have to return to a basic principle, I believe, central to the American character, which is increasing personal responsibility. It's time, like the chart that I outlined here, to look at bad health habits, principally obesity, drinking, and smoking, and to encourage or reward Americans who do not exhibit these habits. Normally, we see 75 percent of the Nation's health care spending is dedicated to chronic diseases related to these three areas, all entirely preventable if we encourage the right habits.

Also, we ought to expand the use of health savings accounts, because we know that Americans who directly control health spending from their own tax-deferred health savings account, much like an IRA, will take a much greater role in the health care decisions they make. Their patient compliance will likely be higher, and the choices they make will be more appropriate for end-of-life care. These health savings accounts are critical, not just to empowering patients, but also to eventually either becoming part of a patient retirement savings or an estate for their children.

Finally, when we look at all of these reforms, we have to pay key attention to the bottom line. Health care reform in the United States has to lower the demand for Federal borrowing, now at what the President already describes as a completely unsustainable rate. Because many sick and elderly Americans will depend on the reforms that we make, the reforms instituted by this Congress must be fiscally responsible and sustainable over time.

The Congressional Budget Office reports that we will borrow \$1.18 trillion just in fiscal year 2009 in a completely unsustainable way, and that new revenues for a health care bill that could be put forward by this House are simply not there.

In its place, this Congress could look at an enormous tax increase or at faltering climate change legislation that

already looks like it will not provide the revenues initially hoped for in its early drafts. In the face of this lack of funding, either on the borrowing side or the unwillingness of Americans to go through a new tax increase and faltering prospects for a climate change bill, it's essential that we return to the kind of reforms that I just outlined here tonight as a way to lower the cost of health insurance, expand access, and improve health care outcomes.

I spent quite a bit of time here tonight talking about the situation in detail because, in my view, this is going to be the biggest subject this Congress deals with this summer. When we look at the worst angels of our nature, we might be able to expect a fairly fierce and partisan debate here in the House. That is predictable but unfortunate.

My hope lies in the moderates of the Senate who can come forward and make sure that we have a bipartisan, modest, and sustainable set of health care reforms that will improve health care for every American in this country in a sustainable way across Presidential administrations and across parties, and not end up making the same mistakes as our allies in Canada and Britain.

Well, those are the details. We will be providing further details in the Tuesday Group meeting tomorrow, and we look forward to joining with many Members on the Democratic side in building what can be one of the greatest opportunities for this Congress to affect the daily lives of the Americans that we represent.

And I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ELLISON (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of official business in district.

Mr. KANJORSKI (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of official business.

Mr. STUPAK (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Mr. WAMP (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of his 24th wedding anniversary.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HARE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HARE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BROWN of Georgia) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, May 22.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, May 22.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, May 19, 20 and 21.

Mr. MCHENRY, for 5 minutes, May 19, 20, 21 and 22.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today, May 19, 20 and 21.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 19, 2009, at 10:30 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of Rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1876. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's reports entitled, "The National Healthcare Quality Report 2008 (NHQR)" and "The National Healthcare Disparities Report 2008 (NHDR)", pursuant to Public Law 106-129; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1877. A letter from the Acting Assoc. Bur. Chief, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matter of Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission's Rules [WP Docket No.: 07-100] received April 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1878. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary For Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Additions and Revisions to the List of Approved End-Users and Respective Eligible Items for the People's Republic of China (PRC) Under Authorization Validated End-User (VEU) [Docket No.: 090415662-9687-01] (RIN: 0694-AE61) received April 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1879. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board, transmitting the Board's report entitled, "Estimating the Historical Cost of General Property, Plant, and Equipment: Amending Statements of Federal Financial Accounting Standards 6 and 23", pursuant to Section 307 of the Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1880. A letter from the Director of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Per Diem for Nursing Home Care of Veterans in State Homes (RIN: 2900-AM97) received April 27, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

1881. A letter from the Director of Regulation Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Headstones and Markers (RIN: 2900-AN29) received April 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

1882. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Credit for Residential Energy Efficient Property [Notice 2009-41] received April 24, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1883. A letter from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Regulations, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rail Transportation Security [Docket No.: TSA-2006-26514; Amendment nos. 1520-6, 1580-1] (RIN: 1652-AA51) received April 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. PERLMUTTER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 450. Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (Rept. 111-113). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. TOWNS: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 885. A bill to elevate the Inspector General of certain Federal entities to an Inspector General appointed pursuant to section 3 of the Inspector General Act of 1978; with an amendment (Rept. 111-114). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. TOWNS: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2182. A bill to amend the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to provide for enhanced State and local oversight of activities conducted pursuant to such Act, and for other purposes (Rept. 111-115). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. TOWNS: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 626. A bill to provide that 4 of the 12 weeks of parental leave made available to a Federal employee shall be paid leave, and for other purposes (Rept. 111-116 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1676. A bill to prevent tobacco smuggling, to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111-117). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the Committee on House Administration discharged from further consideration, H.R. 626 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FALLOMAVAEGA (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. DELAHUNT, and Ms. HIRONO):

H.R. 2455. A bill to amend the Whale Conservation and Protection Study Act to promote international whale conservation, protection, and research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in

addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Ways and Means, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California (for herself, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. HARE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. WU, and Mr. COSTELLO):

H.R. 2456. A bill to amend section 484B of Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for tuition reimbursement and loan forgiveness to students who withdraw from an institution of higher education to serve in the uniformed services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California (for herself, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. HARE):

H.R. 2457. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code to require that group health plans and issuers of health insurance coverage provide coverage for second opinions; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LAMBORN (for himself, Mr. AKIN, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. BARTLETT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JONES, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LINDER, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MCKEON, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PITTS, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. MILLER of Florida):

H.R. 2458. A bill to amend the General Education Provisions Act to prohibit Federal education funding for elementary or secondary schools that provide access to emergency postcoital contraception; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BURTON of Indiana (for himself and Mr. WEXLER):

H.R. 2459. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. HARE, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. WALZ, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HOLT, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FILNER, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. STARK, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. OLIVER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CLEAV-

ER, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HONDA, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. WEINER, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. SIRES, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CLAY, Ms. CORINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. SABLAN, and Ms. FUDGE):

H.R. 2460. A bill to allow Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

H.R. 2461. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the responsibility of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to verify the veteran status of the owners of small business concerns listed in the database maintained by the Secretary; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 2462. A bill to eliminate the backlog in performing DNA analyses of DNA samples collected from convicted child sex offenders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself and Mr. TIAHRT):

H.R. 2463. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish and provide a checkoff for a Breast and Prostate Cancer Research Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 2464. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit advance notice to certain individuals, including security screeners, of covert testing of security screening procedures for the purpose of enhancing transportation security at airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 2465. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reward those Americans who provide volunteer services in times of national need; to the Committee on Ways and Means.